



Post file photo

2006: The year in review

Thursday, January 4, 2007

Home of the Big Red One

Vol. 50, No. 1

Changes, growth characterize 2006

Staff report

Comings, goings and changes on post highlighted activities at Fort Riley in 2006. Besides the return of the 1st Infantry Division, the redeployment of two units created a lot of excitement at the Home of the Big Red One.

Homecomings

The year began with the return of the 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division, after its year in Iraq.

The brigade's Soldiers returned home in several increments, heralded by about 150 Soldiers filing into Hangar 817 at Marshall Army Airfield Dec. 28, 2005, to be welcomed by families, friends and post officials. Another 550-plus Soldiers in the brigade arrived to cheers and tears of happiness at ceremonies conducted Jan. 12 and 14, with the rest of the brigade trailing in throughout the month.

Another big welcome home

party occurred Nov. 1 when members of the 82nd Medical Company (Air Ambulance) walked into Long Fitness Center to a joyous ovation. It was the third time the post's medical helicopter unit had completed a rotation in Iraq in less than five years.

The year wrapped up on a happy note as members of the 300th Military Police Company returned from a year of training Iraqi police forces, setting up new police stations and patrolling the streets in al-Anbar Province.

Transition Team training

The "Dagger" Brigade of the U.S. Army Reserve wrapped up its mission at Fort Riley in October. Members of the 2nd Brigade, 91st Division (Training Support), spent several months on post setting up transition team training programs and then training active duty Soldiers stationed at Fort Riley to assume that training mis-

sion. The 1st Inf. Div., was the first brigade on post to downsize to a training cadre and to assume a role in training the teams that would deploy to Iraq and Afghanistan to serve as advisors to the security forces in those countries. The 3rd Bde., 1st Armored Div., followed soon after, concentrating on training the Afghanistan bound teams.

Building brigades

While downsizing of the two heavy brigades took place, buildup of the new Combat Aviation Brigade began with the arrival of Apache Longbow and the helicopter gunships in May and the

Page 2

See more homecoming photos from 2006.

first Chinook heavy lift helicopter in September.

With the change in Fort Riley's training mission to preparing transition teams for advisor missions in Iraq and Afghanistan and with the buildup of the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team and the new CAB, the training

scene on post changed dramatically.

Training goes urban

Gone were the booming tank gunnery tables and tank maneuvers. New training sites began popping up like the native Kansas sunflower wherever possible. CONEX containers were transformed into Iraqi villages. Roads running through training areas became training sites in themselves, complete with ambushes, simulated improvised explosive devices and strangers wearing the robes and head protection U.S. Soldiers would see while deployed overseas. Most of the strangers spoke little or no English.

On one section of the post's training range, a large city began to take shape, complete with homes, businesses, a temple, a school and even hidden tunnels from one building to another. The

Combined Arms Collective Training Facility is part of a \$14 million-plus urban operations assault course being built on post. It will be used to train Soldiers to operate successfully in an urban setting.

Spreading out

Construction wasn't limited to training sites, however. Large numbers of portable buildings began sprouting all over post, and especially at Camp Funston, to accommodate the arriving Soldiers and new MiTT training mission assigned to the 1st Inf. Div.

Irwin Army Community Hospital announced plans to enlarge its treatment areas and expanded by opening a new clinic at Marshall Army Airfield to handle members of the CAB and possibly their families.

A new Child Development

See 2006 news, Page 2

Page 5 - 4th Brigade stands up



Post file photo

The 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team's Command Sgt. Maj. James Champagne and Col. Ricky Gibbs encourage Soldiers led by Sgt. 1st Class Jamal Gutierrez, Co. A, 1st Bn., 28th Inf., during a brigade run May 5.

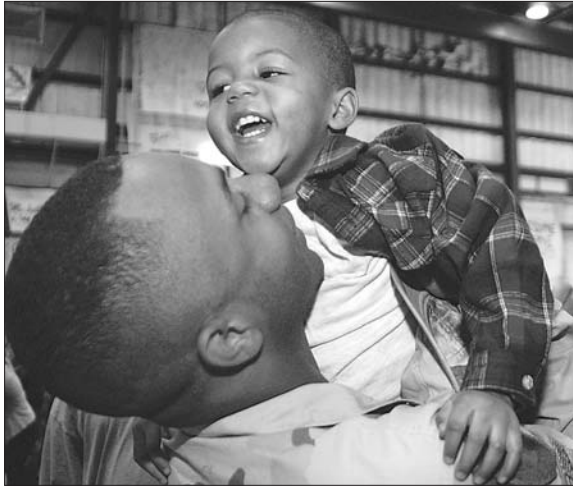
Page 7 - Transition teams train on post



Post file photo

Members of a Transition Team training at Fort Riley search for "insurgents" in a building at urban cluster site three. Soldiers from 1st Bn., 16th Inf. were on hand to observe the training and take part as observer/controllers in preparation for the battalion's take over of the training in October.





Pfc. Renaldo Green holds his 2-year-old son, Latrell, at the 3rd Brigade redeployment ceremony Jan. 8. Green was deployed with 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor.

Post file photo

2006 news continued from page 1

Center opened on Custer Hill with plans to add another facility in the future.

A new fire station was built near Camp Funston.

Picrnie Military Housing assumed responsibility for all family housing on post and announced plans to build 400 new family quarters in the Camp Forsyth area. That put plans on the table for a new fire station to protect that area.

Other new family quarters are already being built in the Morris Heights and Peterson Heights housing areas.

New barracks projects and renovation of some existing barracks on Custer Hill continued throughout the year, as did work on motor pool and maintenance facilities.

A new headquarters building for the 1st Inf. Div. began to take shape this year. It stands on a hill behind the existing post headquarters and surveys the entire Main Post area of Fort Riley from its high vantage point.

Recognizing excellence

While much of the focus at Fort Riley concerned building for

the future, the day-to-day operations continued with notable success. Several post activities received recognition for outstanding achievement.

The Child Development Center was recognized July 17 by Integrated Pest Management STAR Certification for its environmentally friendly techniques for pest control.

The post fire department was named best small operation in the Installation Management Agency's northwest region and was runner-up in the Army-wide competition.

The Main Post Dining Facility won the Northwest Region's Phillip A. Connelly Award and advanced to the Army-wide competition.

The post's veterinary services received the U.S. Army Veterinary Services Command's Above

and Beyond award for services beyond its normal mission of food inspection and taking care of military animals.

Remembering

Although much of the news in 2006 was good, some was not. The post mourned the loss of three lives to the Global War on Terrorism and a training accident on post.

Two 82nd Med Co. (AA) Soldiers – Sgt. Jeffrey Brown and Sgt. Steven Mennemeyer – died Aug. 8 when the Black Hawk they were flying in crashed near Rubtbah, Iraq. Pfc. Donald E. Compton of Company A, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, died as the result of a training accident Jan. 25 on post.



Post file photo

Above: Shavonne Green shouts with joy after spotting her husband among the returning 3rd Bde. Soldiers Jan. 12 at Hangar 817, Marshall Army Airfield.



Post file photo

Right: Bridget Friddle (right) holds back a gasp and tears when she sees her husband, Spc. James Friddle of 1st Bn., 4th FA, march into Hangar 817 Jan. 12.



Post file photo

Soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor search for their duffel bags following a 1:30 p.m. redeployment ceremony Jan. 8. About 680 Soldiers of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team and 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor came back to Fort Riley in January after a year-long deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

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'Big Red One' returns after 10 years

Staff report

After a 10-year absence from Fort Riley, the 1st Infantry Division cased its colors in Wurzburg, Germany, during a departure ceremony at Victory Park on Leighton Barracks July 6 and headed back to Kansas.

In a ceremony Aug. 1 on Cavalry Parade Field, Fort Riley bade farewell to the 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) and Commanding General Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy and welcomed home the "Big Red One," the oldest continuously serving division in the Army.

During the return ceremony, the "Big Red One" colors were unfurled and Maj. Gen. Carter Ham accepted the division's colors from Lt. Gen. Raymond Odierno, commanding general of III Corps, the 1st Inf. Div.'s higher headquarters. Maj. Gen. Kenneth Hunzeker, who brought the division back from Germany, relinquished command of the renowned fighting division.

The return of the division sparked much excitement and a flurry of construction on post and in the surrounding communities. By 2011, Fort Riley and the surrounding area will have a total service population of about 71,000 people and more than \$1 billion in new facilities. The

71,000 service population will include Soldiers, family members, members of the civilian workforce and retirees and their families.

Soldiers often return to Fort Riley and say that their best days in the Army were spent here, said Bill McKale, historian and Fort Riley museum director, before the ceremony Aug. 1.

Over the next five to 10 years, McKale predicted Fort Riley will see many leaders come through the ranks of the "Big Red One" who will go on to make names for themselves and for the Army at a national level. "You look at the 1st Inf. Div. and you look at the leaders that have come through its ranks, enlisted and officer, who have gone on to important leadership positions Army-wide, and I think that we're really on the cusp of a very historic point."

Those future leaders "will have got their seasoning, so to speak, here at Fort Riley, so they're always going to have a little bit of Kansas that they're going to take away with them," he said. "Most of the guys who serve here have a very warm spot for this post because of its history and traditions."

During his first speech at Fort Riley, Ham said Fort Riley's relationship with its surrounding

communities was unlike anything he'd seen in his 30 years of service.

"This closeness between the community and the military community is truly something very, very special, and I look forward to being a part of that," he said. "We will be good neighbors and good stewards."

See 1st ID photos, Page 4

Maj. Gen. Kenneth W. Hunzeker, 1st Inf. Div. commanding general, and Command Sgt. Maj. John D. Fourhman, division command sergeant major, case the division colors during the "Big Red One's" departure ceremony at Leighton Barracks' Victory Park in Wurzburg, Germany, July 6.

Post file photo



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND - AFC
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Post file photo

Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy, outgoing 24th Inf. Div. (Mech) commanding general, renders his last salute as he closes his departure speech with "Victory Six out."



Post file photo

Maj. Gen. Carter Ham (left), commanding general, 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley, accepts the "Big Red One" colors from Lt. Gen. Raymond Odierno after Maj. Gen. Kenneth Hunzeker (right) relinquished command of the division in a change of command ceremony Aug. 1 on Fort Riley's Cavalry Parade Field.





1st ID photos continued from page 3

Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy (front left) and Command Sgt. Maj. Marvel Dean (front second from left) finish casing the colors of the inactivated 24th Inf. Div. (Mech) while Maj. Gen. Kenneth Hunzeker (front second from right) and Command Sgt. Maj. John Fourhman (front right) finish uncasing the 1st Inf. Div. colors Aug. 1 on Cavalry Parade Field.

Hunzeker later relinquished command of the 1st Inf. Div. to Maj. Gen. Carter Ham.

Hardy left his post as 24th Inf. Div. (Mech) commanding general to become deputy commanding general of Third Army and U.S. Army Forces Central Command in Kuwait.

Post file photo



Post file photo

Members of 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division led by Commander Col. Jeffrey Ingram pass the reviewing stand Aug. 1.



Post file photo

Members of the Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard re-enact a cavalry charge while the 1st Infantry Division Band plays Gerry Owen to conclude the transfer of authority ceremony at Cavalry Parade Field Aug. 1.

ALLEGIANCE COMMUNICATIONS, LLC
6 x 12"
Black Only
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Post file photo
 Pvt. Logan Hay attaches a tow strap to the front of the "Humvee" he was driving during 1st Bn., 28th Inf., drivers training March 8. Hay was the first to try to drive through the giant mud puddle and the first to get stuck. While leaning over the front of the vehicle to attach the tow strap, Hay's cell phone slid from his pocket and dropped into the muddy water, causing him to go fishing for it. More "Black Lions" drivers found the puddle a formidable obstacle while getting a feel for driving in a field environment.

4th Brigade stands up, sinks in to training

Staff report

An activation ceremony Jan. 12 signified the transfer of the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team from inactive to active status and began the rush to prepare the Soldiers, many straight from initial training, for deployment.

Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy, commanding general of Fort Riley and the 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized), said the stand-up of the "Dragon" Brigade was a step in the transformation to widen the Army's capabilities. The brigade would be able to operate at the low end of the military spectrum, including humanitarian relief efforts, as well as the high end, such as high intensity combat missions.

"It's an organization that can operate in complex terrain, be it cities or mountains or forests or jungles," he said during the activation ceremony. "It can operate dismounted. In fact, it's trained, organized and equipped to operate dismounted, or we can motorize it and send the truck and make it mobile or we can provide helicopters and we can air assault it. Truthfully, by the time (Brigade Commander Col.) Ricky Gibbs gets done with it, we might even be able to airborne it."

The 4th IBCT is unique in that it is self-sustaining because of its support battalion and because it has its own reconnaissance, surveillance and target acquisition unit, the 2nd Squadron, 4th Cavalry.

Throughout the year, the 4th IBCT units participated in many training and morale building activities at Fort Riley.

In March, the 2nd Battalion, 32nd Field Artillery Regiment, welcomed the arrival of its first big equipment, three of 16 light towed howitzers, from

a unit in Hawaii. When the "Proud Americans" heard the word "fire" June 20, it had a different meaning for them. It was the first time the Soldiers got to fire live rounds from the howitzers since receiving them in March.

While the artillery Soldiers were acquainting themselves with the howitzers, 47 "Raiders" and "Black Lions" were returning from Fort Campbell, Ky., wearing their Air Assault wings.

Staff Sgt. Juan A. Pepi III, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th IBCT, and Pfc. Jon M. Dorsey, Company A, 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment, won honors May 25 for being the 4th IBCT's first Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier of the Year.

To commemorate the Army's 231st birthday, the 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, executed a 20.8-mile, all night tactical road march June 13-14. The "Rangers" completed the march in less than nine hours, a feat no Fort Riley unit has accomplished since the Vietnam era.

In November, the Soldiers of 4th IBCT traveled to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif., to train for deployment. While there the Soldiers received a visit from nine community leaders, Maj. Gen. Carter F. Ham, commanding general of 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley, and a contingent of public affairs staffers to observe the 4th IBCT training.

During their stint at NTC, the brigade also received its orders to deploy in the next rotation of Operation Iraqi Freedom early in 2007 to perform a variety of security functions.

See 4th IBCT photos, Page 6



Daily Union photo
 Soldiers of the 2nd Bn., 16th Inf., try to identify a captured insurgent played by a fellow Fort Riley Soldier during a 4th IBCT exercise at Smoky Hill Weapons Range near Salina, Kan., early this month.



Post file photo
 Soldiers of the 1st Bn., 28th Infantry, work through the rope climb and pipe walk March 3 at Fort Riley's obstacle course. The Soldiers were participating in an obstacle course competition which ended the battalion's special Air Assault Training Week. The week simulated training at Fort Campbell's Air Assault School in Kentucky. The Soldiers also participated in a six-mile road march competition after the obstacle course, weapons squad, 1st Platoon, Co. A, won the obstacle course competition and 3rd Squad, 2nd Platoon, Co. A, won the road march.





4th IBCT photos continued from page 5



Post file photo

Pvt. Brian Tritt, Battery A, 2nd Battalion, 32nd Field Artillery Regiment, steadies the fuse on a 105mm round while other members of his team scramble to prepare more shells for firing June 20. Tritt's gun fired the first artillery round of the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team.



Post file photo

Soldiers of the 1st Bn., 28th Infantry, wait on top of a "water buffalo" waiting to hook it to an approaching Black Hawk helicopter March 2. The aircraft and crews belong to the 1st Bn., 108th Aviation, Kansas Army National Guard. The training was part of the battalion's Air Assault training week.



Post file photo

Guidon and color bearers of 2nd Bn., 16th Inf.; 1st Bn., 28th Inf.; 2nd Sqdn., 4th Cav.; 2nd Bn., 32nd FA; 4th Bde. Special Troops Bn., and 610th Bde. Spt. Bn., stand at attention with furled flags during the 4th IBCT activation ceremony Jan. 12 at King Field House.



Post file photo

Pfc. Jeremy Rettig, Troop A, 1st Squadron, 4th Cav. shows community leaders how a UAV is tracked on a computer during the leaders visit to the National Training Center in November.

DAILY UNION
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Staff Sgt. Hector Capps looks on as Sgt. 1st Class Charles Jennings administers an IV to Maj. Vince Yznaga during combat lifesaver training at Camp Funston. CLS training is part of the 60-day training cycle transition teams participate in at Fort Riley before deploying to Iraq or Afghanistan. *Post file photo*

Fort Riley takes over transition team training

Staff report

Fort Riley received a new training mission in 2006 – training Transition Teams. In March, the 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, learned it would start preparing to take over the training later in the year, assisted by the 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division, until its modular conversion.

Together, the two brigades organized a cadre of Soldiers who will organize, train and deploy 3,500 to 4,000 Soldiers over the course of a year to serve on transition teams. The size of each deployed team will vary based on its specific mission; however, teams are generally composed of about 10-15 personnel.

When the transition teams have completed their pre-deployment preparations at Fort Riley, they will deploy and help develop Iraqi and Afghan forces under the command of the Coalition headquarters for each country.

Until the "Devil" Brigade was prepared to take over the training in October, a unit from Fort Carson, Colo., the 2nd Brigade, 91st Division (Training Support), set up the mission. The "Dagger" Brigade Soldiers helped the 1st Infantry Division cadre at Fort Riley learn how to train effective transition teams bound for those missions in Iraq and Afghanistan.

In May, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, became the

first regular size battalion organization of the units already stationed at Fort Riley to move to Camp Funston in preparation to take over the training. The "Dreadnaughts," who were eventually followed by the other 1st Brigade Combat Team battalions, took up residence in one of the many new temporary relocatable buildings at Funston.

The first class of four Transition Teams made up of 38 officers and senior noncommissioned officers graduated at Fort Riley to a standing ovation July 27.

In October, Fort Riley said goodbye to the "Dagger" Brigade and the 1st Infantry Division assumed full responsibility for training the teams.

In preparation for their deployment, the teams complete a 60-day training cycle that includes combat lifesaver training, language labs and weapons and communications training and culminates in a four-day mission readiness exercise at various mock Iraqi villages on post.

The MRX has the TT advisors overseeing multiple missions, including a cordon-and-search exercise, responding to the "deaths" of Iraqi soldiers while pulling fixed-site security, responding to a village mortar strike, checkpoint operations and others.

See Transition team photos, Page 8



Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Dinsmore from 2/356 "Redball Express" watches a transition team conduct combat lifesaving techniques during lanes training. *Post file photo*



Members of a transition team training at Fort Riley search for "insurgents" in a building at urban cluster site three. Soldiers from 1st Bn., 16th Inf. were on hand to observe the training and take part as observer/controllers in preparation for the battalion's take over of the training in October. *Post file photo*





Transition team photos continued from page 7



Post file photo
While hunting down suspected anti-Iraq forces members in a scenario during the group's capstone training event – their Mission Readiness Exercise – at an urban cluster site on post Sept. 7.



Post file photo
Above: A transition team Soldier awaits his turn to go through drivers training at Fort Riley. Team members learn to react through a number of scenarios during drivers training.

Right: Transition team Soldier Staff Sgt. Timothy Petronico prepares an IV bag during combat lifesaver training Oct. 28 at Camp Funston.



Post file photo



Post file photo
Transition team Soldiers training at Camp Funston hustle to administer combat lifesaving techniques to Soldiers and mannequins simulating casualties.



Post file photo
An observer/controller for 2nd Bde., 91st Div. (TS) instructs a transition team Soldier on how to enter an enclosed area and react to an enemy.

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Companies deploy as security forces

Staff report

At the end of 2005, 1st Brigade learned it wouldn't be deploying to Iraq as a brigade. Instead, the ever-adapting "Devil" Brigade Soldiers assumed two new missions in 2006.

While most of the brigade prepared to take over Military Transi-

tion Team training at Camp Funston, seven companies reorganized, almost doubling in size, and trained to deploy to Iraq as security force companies.

As security forces in Iraq, the Soldiers would be responsible for escorting supply convoys between forward operating bases throughout Iraq. Even though the drives may often

be long and uneventful, the Soldiers trained to remain alert and on the lookout.

To prepare for their mission they participated in convoy escort training, convoy live-fire exercises, improvised explosive devices classes, individual weapons qualifications and firing on small arms ranges.

In a deployment ceremony

Sept. 6, Fort Riley Soldiers, family members and community members said goodbye to the more than 1,200 Soldiers of Co. B, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry; Co. C, 1st Bn., 16th Inf.; Co. B, 1st Bn., 34th Armor; Co. C, 1st Bn., 34th Armor; D Troop, 4th Cavalry; Battery B, 1st Bn., 5th Field Artillery; and Btry. D, 1st Bn., 5th FA.



Right: Capt. John Wyatt and his wife Katie talk with 1st Sgt. Mark Flett, holding his daughter Katerina, and his wife Jina after the deployment ceremony Sept. 6. Wyatt and Flett are both deploying soon with Btry. B, 1st Bn., 5th FA.

Post file photo



Post file photo

Pfc. Ian Tucker of HHC, 1st Bn., 16th Inf., plays the role of an insurgent attacker during the battalion's convoy training June 6 for its upcoming security force mission in Iraq.



A 1st Bn., 5th FA gunner engages the enemy while in front of his vehicle a group of Soldiers tends to their wounded buddy. The Soldier was wounded when a simulated IED exploded near his "Humvee" during the battery's Sec-For training Aug. 8.

Post file photo

<p>MEMORIAL HOSPITAL ABILENE 1 x 2' Black Only 1x2.nodiacjantf.1/1.4073.1k</p>	<p>HOMESTEAD AUTO 1 x 15' Black Only 1x1.5HhomesteadWrecker01/04</p>	<p>STATE FARM INSURANCE 1 x 6' Black Only 1x6.TF11/3.1944.1k</p>	<p>MIDWEST FURNITURE GALLERIES 3 x 10' Black Only 3x10REMidwest01/04 FourYears</p>
<p>LAKE SIDE MARINE 1 x 4' Black Only 1x4 Lakeside Marine</p>	<p>SALINA POWERSPORT 1 x 4.5' Black Only 1x4.5.dirtbikes.12/22.8239.1k</p>		
<p>MANHATTAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 3 x 4' Black Only 3x4 MCVB Tmt Vanzelf</p>			





Vice President Dick Cheney waves to the Soldiers gathered on Cavalry Parade Field at Fort Riley April 18. During his speech, Cheney thanked more than 10,000 Fort Riley Soldiers, family members and civilian employees for their service and sacrifices. It was the first time since 1943 that a U.S. president or vice president had visited Fort Riley. *Post file photo*

Transition teams bring VIPs to post

Staff report

President George W. Bush lectured at Kansas State University Jan. 23 and 800 Fort Riley Soldiers were in the crowd of more than 8,500 people gathered to hear the country's top executive. He was the first VIP of 2006 to visit the area and Fort Riley.

Most of the increased attention to America's Warfighting Center came later in the year, after the 1st Infantry Division had returned to the post after being stationed in Germany for 10 years. The interest centered on Fort Riley's new mission of training small Transition Teams to serve as advisors in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Vice President Dick Cheney thanked more than 10,000 Fort Riley Soldiers, family members and civilian employees for their service and sacrifices when he visited the post April 18. It was the first time since 1943 that a U.S. president or vice president had visited Fort Riley.

Gen. Richard Cody, the Army's vice chief of staff, visited Fort Riley Oct. 3 to view Transition Team training and to talk with a few Soldiers training to go to Iraq as advisors. Preparing teams is the nation's "No. 1 priority," Cody said. "We've been able to turn over territory and operations areas to the Iraqi army based upon the individual training that we've been giving them," he assured.

Gen. Peter Schoomaker, the Army's chief of staff, was the next military leader to visit post. He stopped Oct. 19 to watch the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team — the brigade that stood up on post in 2006 — load its equipment on railcars for shipment to the

National Training Center. That training rotation would be the final step in preparing the new light infantry brigade for deployment to Iraq in early 2007.

Schoomaker also viewed team training before leaving Fort Riley.

Secretary of the Army Dr. Francis Harvey was next to view transition team training, and he got a quick lesson in a foreign language using the post's new language lab.

"Fort Riley is the centerpiece of establishing a free and democratic Iraq, and ... they are doing a similar mission in Afghanistan," Harvey said about the advisor teams.

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld stopped at Fort Riley Nov. 9, just a day after announcing his resignation from that post. His visit to Kansas included a Landon Lecture appearance at Kansas State University.

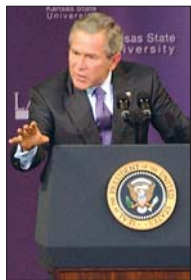
At Fort Riley, the defense secretary viewed the language lab, a display of improvised explosive devices and Soldier training in a cultural awareness class teaching Iraqi customs and courtesies.

The former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, retired Air Force Gen. Richard Myers, passed through Fort Riley Oct. 13, again to view how the 1st Inf. Div. was handling transition team training.

"I think the centralized training here with the division and at Fort Riley seems to make a lot of sense," he said. "I think the overall quality of training, the standards and, in particular, the feedback mechanism (lessons learned in Iraq and Afghanistan) will be a lot cleaner."



Lt. Col. Kurt Schneider, 1st Inf. Div. G2, provides former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld a brief lesson in Arabic at the language lab during Rumsfeld's visit to view transition team training at Fort Riley. *Post file photo*



Above: President George W. Bush delivers the Landon Lecture at Kansas State University Jan. 23. *Post file photo*

Right: Fort Riley Commanding General Maj. Gen. Carter Ham leads Secretary of the Army Francis J. Harvey down the 1st Division Hallway in the "Big Red One" Headquarters Nov. 2. *Post file photo*



Gen. Richard Cody, Army vice chief of staff, talks with members of a transition team Oct. 3 after their after action review of training they had just conducted at Fort Riley. *Post file photo*



Fort Riley Community Life

Thursday, January 4, 2007

Home of the Big Red One

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2006: The year in review



Post, community come together

Staff report

The return of the "Big Red One" after a 10-year absence sparked three major community events in 2006.

The first was a "Thank You Fort Riley" picnic and entertainment event hosted July 22 by the Junction City-Geary County (Kan.) Military Affairs Council at Fort Riley Middle School. Local supporters provided free food and drinks, musical entertainment, prizes, a variety of activities to entertain children and classic and customized car displays.

Fort Riley provided an Apache "Longbow" helicopter gunship to show off one of the new aircraft being added to the post's combat equipment inventory with the arrival of the 1st Infantry Division.

Next, Manhattan, Kan., welcomed its arms with a "Welcome Home" parade Aug. 24 for the 1st Inf. Div. Soldiers. The "Big Red One" officially took up residence at Fort Riley Aug. 1, replacing the 24th Infantry Division that had been actively involved in training

units for combat rotations to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Junction City followed that parade with one of its own Nov. 4. The celebration included a special luncheon to honor three retired Soldiers, an Army war veteran and three civilians living in the city for their contributions to the community and to the well-being of military families at Fort Riley.

Those honored were retired Lt. Gen. Richard Seitz, retired Command Sgt. Maj. George Terry, retired Buffalo Soldier 1st Sgt. Albert Curley, World War II veteran Merrill Werts, local highway contractor and Armed Forces YMCA benefactor John Trygg, Junction City Manager Rod Barnes and Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army Emeritus John Montgomery.

Fort Riley honored its top adult and youth volunteers, Debbi Elliott and Shontay Osterman-Batley, in a formal ceremony April 24.

Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy, then commanding general of the 24th Infantry Division and Fort Riley, accepted a simulated check for

\$2,290,520.70 — the estimated value of all volunteer service rendered to Fort Riley organizations and activities in 2005. Volunteers donated almost 127,000 hours of service during the year.

The post welcomed the general public, Sheridan Elementary School students and an ill youngster to experience Soldier and military family life at three events during the year.

The annual Apple Day and Post Open House brought thousands of visitors to Main Post to look at equipment displays, talk with historical era re-enactors, take a walk through military history via videotapes and photographs of conflicts from World War II through Operation Iraqi Freedom, try their hand at shooting Army weapons and test their skills by running an obstacle course.

About 80 students from Sheridan Elementary School in Junction City, Kan., experienced firsthand all the different kinds of jobs Soldiers assigned to the 101st Forward Support Battalion perform daily. They got to see a field medical tent complete with bleed-

ing dummies being treated by Army medics, to negotiate a darkened room wearing night vision goggles, to communicate using Army radios and to ride in "Humvees" traveling along a rough and muddy road.

Nine-year-old Breckin Cubie lived his dream of being an Army "tanker" Feb. 22 when he visited members of the 1st Battalion, 34th Armor, as their special guest.



He wore a tanker uniform, Kevlar helmet and Expert Marksmanship Badge as he learned about tanks and life as an armor Soldier. He was promoted to honorary sergeant during the visit that kept him smiling most of the day.

Military family members reached out to the community in artistic ways, too — acting, singing and dancing in local theater productions.

Fort Riley spouse Kazaglis reprised her role as Dorothy in the musical "Wizard of Oz" performed at the famous Columbian Theatre in Wamego, Kan., throughout October. Her 5 1/2-year-old daughter joined her as one of the Lullaby League Munchkins.

Spouse Randy Dykstra played the male lead in "One Toe in the Grave," a comedy about a man who needs to find a wife and find her right away. It wasn't his first time performing for the Junction City Little Theatre while his Soldier wife served at Fort Riley. He also directed one comedy for the JCLT.

Capt. Janine Taylor made her little theater stage debut as the female lead's mother in "Barefoot in the Park" the latter part of September and Oct. 1. The 1st Brigade S2 was "a natural," in Director Tim Stuck's view.

Four members of the Cruz family — sisters Amanda and Stephanie, mother Daisy and son Ramon, played in the JCLT's "Here's Love," a musical rendition of the classic film "Miracle on 34th Street," the middle of December.

Centering their attention on Fort Riley, middle school and high school teens and adults gathered in October in separate conferences to discuss family life issues that they thought needed to

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See Post Open House and Apple Day photos from 2006.

See AFAP, Page 12

Post, 101st FSB welcome neighbors



Sheridan Elementary School student Travis Koster wraps a bandage around mock injuries to the arm of Pfc. Andre Yaceczko in the field medical station set up for the 101st Forward Support Battalion Open House May 5. Watching Koster and offering advice on what to do is Sgt. 1st Class Paul Russell (left) and Spc. Christopher Monteith (rear right). Austin Jordan (right) waits his turn.

Parades in communities welcome 1st ID



The 1st Inf. Div. band plays the national anthem during the Soldier Salute on Poyntz in Manhattan Aug. 24. Manhattan Mayor Bruce Sneed and Maj. Gen. Carter Ham, commanding general of the 1st Inf. Div., and Fort Riley, made remarks in the plaza area in front of Manhattan Town Center Mall before the procession made its way back down Poyntz Avenue. The event was held to welcome Soldiers to the Manhattan area.



Connie Hall (far left), director of the Junction City and Geary County Convention and Visitors Bureau, tosses candy to Ella Gilliam, wife of 1st Inf. Div. Chief of Staff Col. Walter Gilliam, and the Welcome Home BRO parade judges Nov. 4.

BROWN 2B SELF STORAGE
2 x 2"
Black Only
2x2BStorage12/15storage

RANDY DAVIS DENTISTRY
2 x 2"
Black Only
2x2 Davis Dent JanTP

COLLEGE HEIGHTS BAPTIST
2 x 2"
Black Only
2x2CollegeHt:all1/3 ttf



Danielle Bega-Silva writes suggestions of off-post activities that could be listed in a teen welcome packet recommended by the high school group participating Oct. 4 in the Army Family Advocacy Program Teen Conference at the Fort Riley Teen Center. Participating in the discussion were Jacoby Adams (left), Elias Guadalupe (rear) and Alisabeth Belt (front center) and other high school students living on post.



1st Inf. Div. Command Sgt. Maj. John Four-man high-fives Sgt. FN Bank as he makes his way down Sixth Street in Junction City.
EAE
2 x 2"
Black Only
2x2 EAE 12/8 PRG'S welcome

FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST
2 x 2"
Black Only
2x21stSBaptist 11/1 ttf

AFAP

continued from page 11

be resolved at Fort Riley or throughout the Army.

Issues they presented to the post's command group included mandatory rest and recreation for Soldiers in combat areas, more dwell time for Soldiers between deployments, more Internet access and computer availability for deployed Soldiers who want to "talk" with family members at home, improved orientations for those arriving at Fort Riley, better information distribution throughout the post, more recreational activities, a larger post library and more news about teen activities on post.

Some issues will be handled at Fort Riley in 2007. Others were forwarded to be handled by the Army conference.



Parents and volunteer helpers watch youngsters play on two of the four inflatable attractions set up July 22 for the "Thank You Fort Riley" picnic.

MARKET PLACE
2 x 2"
Black Only
2x2.market.1/5.3845.1k

JON MURDOCK AUTO MALL
2 x 8"
Black Only
2x8 Murdock M&E1

HOUSE FILL AD

DICKINSON THEATRES, INC.
1 x 1.5"
Black Only
1x1.5.12/15.DICKPOST3641.1k

PRAIRIE HAWK CYCLE & LEATHER,
1 x 1.5"
Black Only
1x1.5 Prairie Hawk

HOMESTEAD AUTO
1 x 1.5"
Black Only
1x1.Homestead Auto12/29list

THE EYE DOCTORS
4 x 4"
Black Only
4x4.eyedoctors.1/5.4154.1k



Two youngsters get to their feet after crawling under a camouflage net obstacle at Fort Riley's open house Sept. 30. The course included several climbing, balancing and maze-like obstacles the youngsters had to negotiate before receiving a congratulatory coin.



Jaeden Green, 4, looks through a sight on the M249 Squad Automatic Weapon displayed by Sgt. Eladio Gonzalez of C Troop, 1st Sqdn., 4th Cav., during open house.



A group of Cub Scouts render honors during the ceremony Sept. 30 at the Global War on Terrorism monument honoring all Fort Riley Soldiers who have died in that war.



A youngster, face covered with camouflage makeup, trots across a balance obstacle at the post open house Sept. 30.



Volunteers pack pie crusts full of apples and slide them down the table to be covered. Over four days, the 300 pie-making volunteers made between 1,200 and 1,500 pies for Apple Day Sept. 30.

LIVING WORD CHURCH - MANHATTAN
3 x 2.5"
Black Only
3x2.SLiving Word01/04t.f

CENTRAL MICHIGAN U/OCP
3 x 8"
Black Only
3X8 C Mich U #19744

FLINT HILLS VETERINARY HOSPITA
3 x 5"
Black Only
3x5FlintH/Vet12/31

Citizens of Munchkinland crowd around Dorothy, played by military spouse Leah Kazaglis, and Toto to get a close look at the Kansas girl who killed the Wicked Witch of the East. Wamego's Columbian Theatre musical production of "The Wizard of Oz" played every weekend in October.

Post file photo



Post file photo
Breckin Cubie, 9, and his father, Bruce, look out the turret of an M1A1 Abrams tank Feb. 22 on Fort Riley.

DAILY UNION
6 x 15.5"
Black Only
serv directory

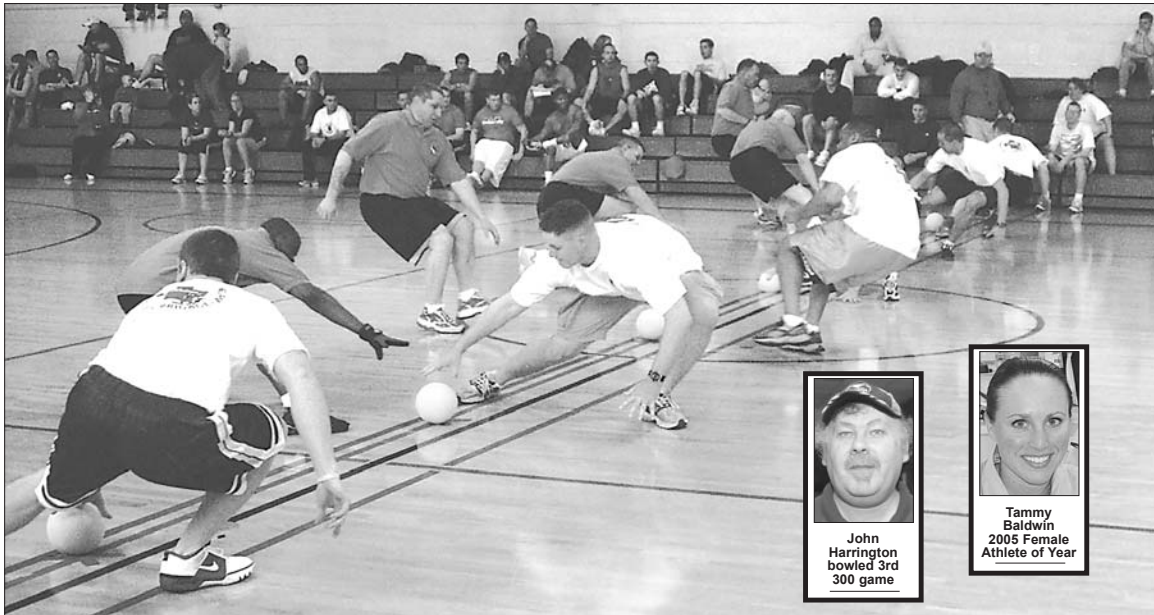
Fort Riley Sports & Recreation

Thursday, January 4, 2007

Home of the Big Red One

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2006: The year in review



Members of the "Dodge This" team (in white shirts) from Co. C, 101st FSB, grab most of the six Nerf balls laid out Feb. 11 for the start of their match with one of 17 other teams entered in the first dodgeball "Extravaganza" organized at Fort Riley.

Post file photo

Teams battle for glory in sports

Staff report

Topping sports achievements in 2006 was Fort Riley's second-place finish in the All-Army Combatives Tournament at Fort Benning, Ga., Nov. 3-5. The previous year's team finished fifth, but a Fort Riley tournament to select the post's top fighters and an aggressive post training program in combatives produced a stronger, better-prepared team for this year's event.

Increased training tempo kept lots of Soldiers on the ranges and off the intramural sports fields at Fort Riley throughout 2006. That meant some teams missed the chance to compete for post tournament titles even though they had done well in league play during the season.

Some units created their own brigade-level tournaments to give

Soldiers an opportunity to play after spending so much time preparing for military deployments.

In spite of having to adjust game schedules on nearly a daily basis, the post sports staff kept the ball rolling through soccer, volleyball, football, basketball and softball seasons and added a couple of new single events to the annual 10-5-2 Prairie Run.

Eighteen teams entered the post's first dodgeball "Extravaganza" Feb. 11. The post opened the event to any organized team from units and activities on post and to teams off post. After all the "nerf" dodgeballs stopped flying, the Morris County, Kan., Regional Runner-up team claimed the post championship trophy. Second place went to Team Illusion, and the Needham team from Abilene, Kan., took third place.

Another unique event in 2006 was the Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Splashin' Dash Triathlon April 29. It pitted about 65 triathletes in team and individual competition swimming a serpentine 300-meter course, biking a little more than 7 miles and running a 2-mile rolling hills course to the finish line.

Fort Riley's Virginia Lee posted the overall top female time of 39 minutes, 37 seconds competing in the 30- to 40-year-old category.

Ric Rosenkranz finished the course ahead of all other men in 33 minutes, 30 seconds.

The Ron Lysinger family, including son Ronnie and daughter Rebecca, won the co-ed team event for three people with a combined age under 100 years. Father, son and daughter combined efforts to finish the course in 53

minutes, 34 seconds.

The Medical Department Activity team comprised of Ian Lee, Chris Lowrey and Mark Ochoa won the male team event for three people with combined ages more than 100 years. They finished in 38 minutes, 39 seconds.

More than 115 runners competed in the annual 10-5-2 Prairie Run July 22. The annual race is open to the public and helps the post pick a team to run in the annual Army 10-Miler at the start of the Association of the U.S. Army convention in Washington, D.C.

U.S. Military Academy Cadet Brian Bharak, who was at Fort Riley for leadership training, won the overall male title for the 10-mile run with a time of 59:31. Trisha Culbertson from Manhattan, Kan., won the 10-mile overall

female title with a time of 1:02:18.

Tim Testa from Junction City, Kan., won the 5-mile race for males in 27:01, and Julie Thornton from Manhattan won the female title in that race with a time of 33:06.

Overall winners in the 2-mile race were Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Heldt of USACIDC with a time of 10:18 and Meghan Hughes of Manhattan with a time of 13:37.

Qualifiers for the post's Army 10-Miler female team were Spc. Angela Hernandez of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 610th Brigade Support Battalion; Capt. Jenny Kirk of the 1st Engineer Battalion; Staff Sgt. Lisa Smith of Company B, 101st Forward Support Battalion; Pvt. Catalina Sandoval of HHC, Brigade Special Troops Battalion;

and Capt. Jamie Peer, 15th Personnel Services Battalion.

Making the post's male team were 2nd Lt. Nathan Showman of 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry; Lt. Col. Patrick Frank, 1st Bn., 28th Inf.; 1st Lt. Steven Ackerson, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 4th Bn., 1st Field Artillery; Sgt. Ryan Gardner, Co. B, 101st FSB; Capt. Mark Malcolm, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, 24th Inf. Division; and Staff Sgt. Matthew Connelly, HHC, 1st Bn., 28th Inf.

Post championship sports crowns for 2006 went to 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, in battalion level soccer; 1st Bn., 13th Armor, in battalion level volleyball; 610th Brigade Support Battalion in battalion level softball; Battery B, 1st Bn., 5th FA, in company level softball; and Com-

See Sports, Page 16

Soccer: 1 - 5 FA



Post file photo

Infantry goalie Ronald Conaway stops a 1st Bn., 5th FA, goal in front of Artillerymen Martin Zarate (left) and Michael Lynch. The 1st Bn., 16th Inf., lost the post championship 5-4 in a seven-shot shootout after the game ended in a tie.

Volleyball: 1 - 13 Armor



Post file photo

Oliver Paga (3) and Pati Tiumalu (12), 1st Bn., 13th Armor jump up to block a spike from 1st Bn., 5th FA's, Sava Maiava during the post volleyball tournament May 1 at King Field House.

Prairie Run: Cadet wins 10-mile



Post file photo

The Aguilar children (front three from left) Jocelyn, Allison and Joey start the 2-mile race at the annual 10-5-2 Prairie Run July 22 at Fort Riley. They ran the race last year and turned in better times this year.

Sports continued from page 15

pany A, 601st Aviation Support Battalion, in company level flag football.

Two battalions at Fort Riley revived the Panzer Bowl flag football tournament in 2006. The annual contest between armor and infantry battalions began in Germany. The 16th annual contest – at Fort Riley this year – saw 1st Bn., 34th Armor, defeat 1st Bn., 16th Inf., 24-12 Dec. 2.

Several individual sports accomplishments were noted in 2006, too. MEDDAC's Sgt.

Tamara "Tammy" Baldwin was named the Army's 2005 Female Athlete of the year, earning 290 of a possible 300 points in the selection process. She starred on Army and Armed Forces women's softball teams in 2005.

John Harrington, an employee at Custer Hill Bowling Center, bowled his third perfect 300 game Feb. 28 at Zuckey Bowl in Manhattan.

Spc. Brandon Smith, a member of the 648th Area Support Group Army Reserve unit helping Fort

Riley prepare Soldiers for rotations to Operations Iraq and Enduring Freedom, placed 10th at the ESPN Outdoors Bassmasters Series regional March 19 at Grand Lake, Okla., and 8th April 9 at Milford Lake near Junction City.

Jerome Howe, an employee in Fort Riley's Plans, Analysis and Integration Office, was inducted into the Kansas State University Athletics Hall of Fame Oct. 6. He was honored for his achievements while competing in track at K-State.



Post file photo
Spc. Brandon Smith puts his bass back into a fish bag held by B.A.S.S. tournament manager, Tom Holder at the ESPN Outdoors Bassmasters Series event at Milford Lake. Smith caught two bass for a total weight of 5 pounds, 13 ounces, which gave him an eighth place finish at the event.



Post file photo
Centurions offensive player Antoine "Neon" Bunton dodges an Iron Rangers defensive player as he runs the ball during the 16th Annual Panzer Bowl flag football game Dec. 2 at Fort Riley's Sturgis Stadium.



Post file photo
An Artillery receiver leaps high to catch a pass in the post flag football championship game Nov. 9. The Co. A, 601st ASB, "Knights" won the post title, 19-13.



Post file photo
Ian Lee of MEDDAC leaves the water in Eyster Pool to start the Fort Riley Splashin' Dash Triathlon April 29. He finished the swimming leg and MEDDAC teammates Chris Lowrey and Mark Ochoa, completed bike and run portions of the race.



Post file photo
Joseph Lute, 610th BSB, throws the ball to his teammate, Jeffrey Rice, as Kurt Myers, 2nd Bn., 34th Armor, slides into third base during the battalion softball tournament Aug. 12.

HOUSE FILL AD

LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
1 x 3"
Black Only
1x3tzhsefellowship11/03 t f

AMERICAN LEGION # 45
2 x 3"
Black Only
2x3AmericanLeg01/02Bingo

MILITARY OUTLET
2 x 3.5"
Black Only
2x3.5MilitaryOut01/04 t f

STANDARD PLUMBING
2 x 5"
Black Only
2x5StandardPlumbing01/07 t f

SCREEN MACHINE
2 x 2"
Black Only
2x2ScreenMac01/04 t f

CANDLEWOOD HEALTH MART PHARMAC
2 x 2"
Black Only
2x2Candlewood Est 11/03 t f

KARSH + HAGAN
6 x 5"
Black Only
6x5.pinnaclebark.12/7.42061k

CLASSIFIED ADS

CLASSIFIED ADS